



**MEADOWLANDS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD MEETING  
MEADOWLANDS DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2045  
January 29, 2024 @ 10:00 AM  
AGENDA**

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. OPENING STATEMENT**

**III. ROLL CALL**

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Approval of Regular Session Remote Meeting Minutes from November 9, 2021

**V. PRESENTATION**

- AECOM: Overview of Draft Meadowlands District Transportation Plan 2045

**VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**VII. RESOLUTIONS AND APPROVALS**

Resolution 2024-01 – Consideration of a Resolution to proceed with a Public Hearing on the Draft Meadowlands District Transportation Plan 2045

**VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE NJSEA OFFICE (201-460-1700) PRIOR TO THE MEETING IF SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS ARE NEEDED UNDER ADA**



**MEADOWLANDS DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2045  
MEADOWLANDS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD MEETING  
REGULAR SESSION**

DATE: November 9, 2021  
TIME: 10:00 a.m.  
PLACE: Remote via Zoom  
RE: **REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

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**Members in Attendance:**

SEAN THOMPSON, Chairman  
NJ Dept. of Community Affairs

ANDREW SWORDS, Designee for MICHAEL RUSSO  
NJ Dept. of Transportation

JAMES KIRKOS  
Meadowlands Regional Chamber

VINCENT PRIETO, Secretary  
NJSEA

**Absent:**

PERRY FRENZEL, Member  
E-Z Ride

MICHAEL GONNELLI, Member  
Mayor of Secaucus

**Also Attending:**

Adam Levy, Vice President of Legal & Regulatory Affairs  
Sara Sundell, Director of Land Use Management and Chief Engineer  
Sharon Mascaro, Deputy Director of LUM/Deputy Chief Engineer  
Nadereh Moini, Chief of Transportation  
Lauren LaRusso, Governor's Authorities Unit  
Colleen Mercado, Senior Operations Administrator  
James Hess, AECOM  
Ira Quiat, AECOM  
Michael Baker, Michael Baker Inc.  
Anthony Durante, Michael Baker Inc.  
Kerri Eglentowicz, Attorney for Town of Secaucus  
Mayor Watt, Town of Teterboro  
Nicholas Saros, Teterboro Municipal Manager  
Mayor James Casella, HMMC Executive Director

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order.

- I. Opening Statement – Chairman Thompson read the Notice of Meeting required under the Sunshine Law.
- II. Roll Call

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Thompson presented the minutes from the January 20, 2021 Regular Session Remote Board meeting.

Upon motion made by Member Kirkos and seconded by President Prieto, the minutes of the Regular Session Remote Board Meeting held on January 20, 2021, were unanimously approved.

IV. **PRESENTATION**

Chairman Thompson introduced Mr. James Hess from AECOM, project manager of the NJSEA's Consultant Team. Chairman Thompson stated that after the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Hess, along with the rest of the project team, would be available to answer any questions that the Board may have.

Mr. Hess thanked the Chairman and stated that he would be providing an update of the technical and outreach work on the MDTP 2045. Mr. Hess first reintroduced the project team and proceeded with an overview of the presentation, which included:

- Review of the Project background and objectives;
- Providing an update on recent work activities;
- Developing candidate improvement projects;
- Providing next steps in the process.

Mr. Hess narrated a power point presentation and provided the Board with the following project updates:

- Project Goals and Objectives;
- Key steps in Scope of Work – currently nearing the end of second phase which is the development of candidate improvement projects and associated cost estimates;
- Review of earlier outreach activities which began in January 2021:
  - Formulation of two Committees: 1. Governing Stakeholders Group and 2. Technical Stakeholders Group;
  - Presentations to the committees focused on providing background information on projects and interactive surveys;
  - Leading responses to survey questions were the lack of adequate multi-modal transportation facilities and the need for funding and incentives for multi-modal improvement.
- Model Update:
  - Completed base-year model for District;
  - Formulated two future year scenarios for analysis;
  - Evaluated and compared traffic conditions for base year (2020) and future years extending out to 2045.
- Results of Model analysis showed the projected land-use development by 2045, with increases in both residential and non-residential development, and what the increases in travel demand would be and how that translated into increased volumes and congestion on roadways.

Mr. Hess turned the presentation over to Mr. Anthony Durante of Michael Baker, Inc. who, summarized the approach that was used in developing the candidate improvement projects:

- Primary set of principles looked at safety, equity, and connectivity.
- Secondary principles looked at environment, incorporation of technology, and economy.
- Data and best practices included: crash data, traffic data, transit ridership, stop-level data, and redevelopment.
- Underlying goal was to make defensible and mitigate any subjectivity.

Mr. Durante noted that there are currently over 85 projects, including 19 district-wide projects; with all municipalities being represented in some way and said that all these projects were presented to the Stakeholder groups and Governor's Authorities Unit in September 2021 with the survey for providing direct feedback.

He focused on four District-wide recommendations:

- MASSTR upgrades;
- Electric vehicles infrastructure and charges;
- Evaluate bus stop facilities and accessibility;
- Complete streets policy.

He noted that the feedback indicated very strong support for all the district-wide recommendations. He then presented four location-specific recommendations:

- Teterboro: Safety improvements at intersection of Rt. 46 and Industrial Avenue;
- North Bergen: Connecting Tonnel Avenue light rail station to Harmon Meadow Boardwalk;
- Secaucus: Meadowland Parkway improvements included: providing sidewalks, enhance access to bus stops; extension of bike lanes; and transit priority such as bus lanes and signal priority.
- Lyndhurst: Valley Brook Avenue - incorporation of bicycle lanes; mass transit facilities; new roadway markings; lighting improvements; sidewalks where they do not exist.

Mr. Durante stated that they are currently reviewing the feedback received on the location-specific recommendations from New Jersey Transit, Hudson County, Secaucus, Teterboro and Meadowlands Regional Chamber and that recommendations will be amended based on review and discussion. He then turned the presentation back over to Mr. Hess.

Mr. Hess concluded the presentation by reviewing the key next steps:

- Estimate improvement costs;
- Prepare prioritized list of recommended improvement projects and staging plan;
- Develop 2045 District Transportation Model;
- Develop fee assessment framework;
- Conduct final round of stakeholder outreach meetings in early 2022;
- Hold MTPB public hearing on the draft plan later in 2022.

## **BOARD MEMBERS QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

### Member Kirkos:

1. Does the 2020 baseline scenario account for COVID-19?
2. In terms of growing the tourism and destination related economy as a segment of the overall growth of the region, he hopes that the team is looking at the growth of tourism and visitors as an element of their analysis.
3. Expressed concern on local circulation issues that need to be addressed.
4. He mentioned the increasing truck traffic on Garland Way (Lyndhurst), which may not be compatible with complete streets.

Mr. Hess responded to Member Kirkos's questions as follows:

1. He would have to report back with clarification on how the modeling team's projections were developed; he did say that the team was using both pre-COVID and post-COVID numbers to do the calibration of the model.
2. The two future year scenarios do not specifically reflect expanded or new facilities as mentioned. The Team possibly could incorporate such development into their additional model analysis.
3. The Team recognizes this, and it would be taken into consideration as they finalize the list of candidate improvement projects.
4. Generally included in the basic district plan. Would look more closely at this situation and adjust their recommendations appropriately.

### Designee Swords:

Does the existing and committed projects scenario have a specific year associated with it?

Mr. Hess replied that it did not, but might estimate it would occur roughly by the year 2030.

## **V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Nicholas Saros, Teterboro Municipal Manager

Mr. Saros asked if there were any short or long term proposals for improvements to transportation at the present time in the region. He specifically mentioned the traffic and congestion on Malcolm Avenue in Teterboro and asked if Mr. Hess knew of anything in the near future that New Jersey Transit was doing on a capital improvement basis. He noted that Teterboro has future developments going on and they were looking for off-site improvements dealing with transportation.

Mr. Hess replied that there wasn't anything that came to mind short term. He stated that the Team could revisit the list of committed projects and see if there was anything that could be added to the analysis.

- Mayor James Cassella, HMMC

Mayor Cassella asked if there were any candidate improvement projects to address flooding and resiliency issues? He emphasized his concern that doing all these road improvements would not be any good if they wind up under water in 25 or 30 years.

Mr. Hess responded saying that the Team was aware of NJDOT's Route 7 project, and that there was at least one other comment about resiliency concerns.

Mr. Durante also replied saying that as roadways are improved, one of the objectives is to incorporate infrastructure which could have positive impacts on flooding and drainage issues. He said that they could look at this issue a little more closely and revise the recommendations as appropriate.

Ms. Moini added that Mayor Cassella's point was something that New Jersey Transit had brought up in their comments and other stakeholders had also emphasized this. She stated that as they move forward to the cost estimate of each plan, the Team would be looking at flooding and other factors impacting the negativeness of the plan.

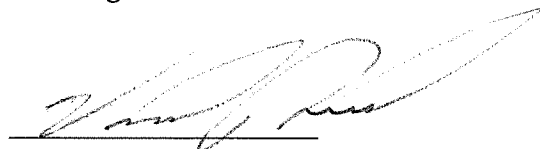
## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, motion was made to adjourn by Member Kirkos and second by Designee Swords, followed by all in favor.

Chairman Thompson thanked everyone for their participation.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

**I certify that on information and belief this is a true and accurate transcript of the Minutes of the Regular Session of the Meadowlands Transportation Planning Board Remote Board Meeting held on November 9, 2021.**



**Vincent Prieto**  
**Secretary**

November 9, 2021

<b>Member</b>	<b>Roll Call</b>
Thompson, Chairman	P
Swords, designee for Russo	P
Frenzel	--
Gonnelli	--
Kirkos	P
Prieto	P

P - Present      A - Abstain  
-- Absent      R = Recuse  
Y = Affirmative   N = Negative

**MTPB**  
**RESOLUTION 2024-01**

**RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE  
DRAFT MEADOWLANDS DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2045**

**WHEREAS**, the Hackensack Meadowlands Transportation Planning District Act of 2015 (the TPD Act), at N.J.S.A. 5:10A-69, established the Meadowlands Transportation Planning District, which is comprised of all lands within the Hackensack Meadowlands District; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the TPD Act, the Meadowlands Transportation Planning Board was established to oversee the creation of a comprehensive, future-oriented District Transportation Plan that shall establish goals, policies, needs and priorities for all modes of transportation and identify transportation projects and associated funding needed to sustain future growth within the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the current plan, the Meadowlands District Transportation Plan 2030, was adopted by both the Meadowlands Transportation Planning Board (MTPB) and the NJMC, predecessor to the NJSEA, in 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to update the current plan, the MTPB has undertaken to oversee the development and updating of a comprehensive, future-oriented district transportation plan, involving an outreach process that has included multiple meetings with governmental and technical stakeholders to obtain their input; and

**WHEREAS**, the objective of the plan update is to identify transportation needs, recommend specific improvements, and estimate costs of improvements over a time frame that reaches to year 2045; and

**WHEREAS**, the NJSEA staff and its consultant team, utilizing stakeholder input and the development of a new transportation model, has prepared the Draft Meadowlands District Transportation Plan 2045, which has been provided to the MTPB; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of the update process, the Act requires that the Meadowlands Transportation Planning Board hold a public hearing to solicit public comment on the Draft Meadowlands District Transportation Plan 2045; and

**WHEREAS**, the NJSEA staff is requesting authorization from the MTPB to publish the Draft Plan and public notice and to proceed with a public hearing on the Draft Meadowlands District Transportation Plan 2045.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NJSEA staff is hereby authorized to publish a public notice and proceed with a public hearing for the Draft Meadowlands District Transportation Plan 2045.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Meadowlands Transportation Planning Board at its meeting of January 29, 2024.

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Paul A. Juliano  
Secretary

MTPB Resolution No. 2024-01